

August 27, 2019

**VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL**

Kent Hoover  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 73785  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Hoover,

On May 21, 2019, the Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security received your Public Records Act request for any e-mail sent or received by any employee of the Tennessee Highway between May 1, 2019 and May 21, 2019. Your request on May 21, 2019 did not include proof of Tennessee citizenship. On May 21, 2019, this Department informed you via e-mail that in order to process your request, we require proof of Tennessee citizenship for *each request*. See Department Rule 1340-08-01-.03(2). On May 29, 2019, this office provided a response to your request after receiving no response to you following our request for proof of Tennessee citizenship. I've attached a copy of this correspondence for your convenience.

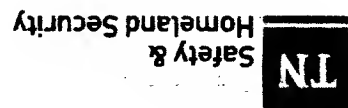
On August 27, 2019 you sent this office an e-mail inquiring as to the status of your May 21, 2019 request. As of May 29, 2019, your request was marked as "closed." If you wish to submit a new public records request, please submit a new request as well as proof of Tennessee citizenship. Any subsequent inquiries with regard to this specific request will not be responded to as this office has already provided a response denying your request.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Patrick Morrison  
Assistant General Counsel



May 29, 2019

VIA U.S. MAIL AND E-MAIL

MuckRock News  
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411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516  
Email: 73785-15698297@requests.muckrock.com

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Somerville, MA 02144-2516  
E-mail: 73790-03377973@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Kent Hoover,

On May 21, 2019, the Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security received your Public Records Act requests, as identified hereinabove, for any e-mail sent or received by any employee of the Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security and/or the Tennessee Highway Patrol between May 1, 2019 and May 21, 2019 which contains any mention of the keyword "antifa" or any mention of "American Renaissance."

After reviewing the request, the Department is unable to provide you with the requested records. The basis for this denial is Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-503(a)(2)(A), which states that:  
All state, county and municipal records shall, at all times during business hours, which for public hospitals shall be during the business hours of their administrative offices, be open for personal inspection by any citizen of this state, and those in charge of the records shall not refuse such right of inspection to any citizen, unless otherwise provided by state law.

[emphasis added]. See also McBurney v. Young, 133 S.Ct. 1709, 81 USLW 4276 (U.S. Supreme Court April 29, 2013). On May 21, 2019, this Department informed you via e-mail that in order to process your requests, we require proof of Tennessee citizenship *for each request*. As such, your requests are denied. As the total charge to process your request was less than \$50.00, there will be no charge.



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Morrison", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Morrison  
Assistant General Counsel